

September 18, 2018

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation, Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79; Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WC Docket No. 17-84; Streamlining Deployment of Small Cell Infrastructure, WT Docket No. 16-421

Dear Ms. Dortch

As Mayor of Burnsville, Minn. a suburban City of 60,000 residents in the southern Minneapolis metropolitan area, I am writing today to express our opposition to the proposals and dockets noted above. On behalf of our community, I urge the FCC to gain an accurate and complete understanding of the facts and law before ruling on these items.

While Burnsville whole-heartedly supports the continued growth and expansion of broadband technology – and welcomes the advancements that are sure to come with the deployment of 5G networks – we have a responsibility to our residents and businesses to ensure it is done in a safe, efficient, and effective manner that does not negatively impact the livability of our community.

The requests of the cable industry, which prompted these inquiries, are based on an incomplete record and reflect a one-sided, one-size-fits-all approach that would severely harm fair and equitable local decision-making, and states' rights to enact common sense rights-of-way regulations.

The cable industry calls these important public safety authorities maintained by local governments “obstacles that must be eliminated.” This cannot be farther from the truth. The State of Minnesota has recently revised its laws regarding deployment of small cell facilities in a manner that was mutually acceptable to both local governments and local industry providers. Potentially conflicting FCC rules would complicate and even delay deployments – which are already well underway in many communities under the current laws.

Issues of rights-of-way management are best handled locally, by the branch of government closest to the people impacted the most. Ensuring public safety, proper oversight and the fair use of this scarce resource is an important part of the City's charge. These proposals, if granted, would significantly erode our ability to maintain and be granted fair and reasonable compensation for the use of public property.

In conclusion, I urge you to refrain from implementing these unnecessary preemptions of local authority.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth B. Kautz, Mayor, City of Burnsville, Minn.